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INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM – KY-FD-IM-S-05-04

TO: Food Service Directors and/or Administrators

FROM: Teresa Ulery, Branch Manager

Division of Food Distribution

DATE: January 12, 2005

SUBJECT: New USDA website for Food Recalls

USDA has placed a new link on their web page that will allow State Agencies and Recipient Agencies to access all information on commercial and commodity food recalls. Below are some questions that the Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) answers on the steps they take to determine if a recall is necessary:

Who regulates food purchases; What is a food recall; Who decides when a recall is necessary; How are unsafe products discovered; How does FSIS notify the public when a product is recalled; What is a Recall Notification Report; What is FSIS' Role During a Recall; How dies FSIS ensure that a recall is effective; Does FSIS keep documentation on recalls; and Where else can consumers find information on Recalls?

You can also find the most current information on commercial and commodity recalls, including Open Recall Cases, Closed Recall Cases, Open Retail Recall Cases, Problems with Food Products, How to Report a Food Recall Problem and you may also subscribe to the FSIS Newsletter.

We would also ask that everyone check the Designated Personnel for a Food Alert Form (KY-FD-22) to ensure that this office has the latest information on the personnel that should be contacted in case of a Food Alert or Food Recall.

You may access any of the information pertaining to the FSIS Recall Page by going to the Food Distribution Web site, click the National School Lunch/Charitable Institution Program, then click Link, under the picture and choose the USDA-Food Distribution. Save this as a Favorite, this way the information will always be available with one click.

Should you have questions or concerns pertaining to our web site, please contact Kevin Peach at 502-573-0298 ext 254 or email at Kevin.Peach@ky.gov.